
Subject: Re: Generating keyword parameters from strings
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 22 Jul 2009 18:00:21 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Eric Hudson wrote:

```
> Hi,  
>  
> Does anyone know of a method of taking a string and turning it into a  
> keyword parameter? As an example, say I want to write a function:  
>  
> function GetProperty, object, propertyName  
>   object->GetProperty, 'propertyName'=value ; This is pseudocode --  
> this line is what I need  
>   return, value  
> end  
>  
> Obviously I can write this using execute, but I'd prefer to avoid that  
> if at all possible.  
> Also, although I use the GetProperty method as an example, this is a  
> more generic question about generating keyword parameter calls (so,  
> for example, David's nice discussion of a general GetProperty method  
> http://www.dfanning.com/tips/getproperty.html doesn't help here).  
>  
> If I were just setting a value this would be easy to do with _EXTRA by  
> making my own structure. But for getting values it doesn't seem like  
> there is an easy equivalent (it would be nice to just make a  
> _REF_EXTRA structure if it behaved equivalent to _EXTRA but it seems  
> it doesn't).
```

?

I use _EXTRA for my Set_Property() methods, and _REF_EXTRA for my Get_Property() methods when I have superclasses and it seems to work fine. For example:

```
PRO SUBCLASS::Set_Property, $  
  ....subclass property keywords here...  
  _EXTRA = Extra ; Keywords passed onto SUPERCLASS::Set_Property  
  
  ...set the subclass properties....  
  
  ; Set the superclass properties  
  self->SUPERCLASS::Set_Property, _EXTRA = Extra  
  
END
```

```
PRO SUBCLASS::Get_Property, $
....subclass property keywords here...
_REF_EXTRA = Extra ; Keywords passed onto SUPERCLASS::Get_Property

...get the subclass properties....

; Get the superclass properties
self->SUPERCLASS::Get_Property, _EXTRA = Extra

END
```

I really don't understand why, in the SUBCLASS::Get_Property method, I can get away with using the _EXTRA keyword to the SUPERCLASS::Get_Property method, but it works. Go figure.

cheers,

paulv
